3 *March*

I do not yet use all my time effectively. A slight dizziness when faced with too many empty hours; I must invent some landmarks. This evening I read Hugo's *Villemain* to Gerard.

6 March

Yesterday evening read to Copeau all I have so far written of *La Porte 6troite.* I had dined at his house; in the afternoon I had taken him my *Amyntas* at Petit's; then the swimming-pool; then the *Ermitage.* It was beautiful weather; I felt very well.

After dinner Copeau first reads several passages of *Amyntas* to his wife; then, taking the book from his hands, I read the passage about the flute, Droh, etc. . . .

Mme Copeau leaves us alone; I take my manuscript out of its envelope. The reading, rather well begun, sinks into a mire of ennui. Lamentable impression, not so much on Copeau, perhaps, as on me; moreover, he already knew almost all of it. I resented that sort of cowardice which had made me have recourse to him before having obtained more. How much work still ahead! I must start it all over again. Excellent profit from the evening. Copeau, a good doctor, without cruelty, with even too much indulgence, but yet strengthening my impression with his. And already I know him too well to be ashamed of showing myself to him without having dressed up more.

This morning I send an express letter to Rouart to refuse his luncheon (at Prunier's with Albert Sarraut and Michel). I hurl myself into work.

Rouart comes after me and drags me off. Unbearable lunch at which no one talks anything but politics and at which I pretend to have some ideas on the question. Toward the end the conversation becomes somewhat livelier on the subject of the Inventories.[14] Albert Sarraut talks rather well.

At three o'clock I get away.

I had the stupidity to go and see Blanche this afternoon. The indignation that I feel toward him makes me believe in eternal life. Impossible to work after that, or even to play the piano. I must go out and get 3, change of air. There is not a single thought in my mind that does not rise up in revolt.

[14] According to the law of 9 December 1905 concerning the separation of the churches from the state, the religious establishments were suppressed and a double "descriptive and qualitative inventory" was ordered made of all the properties owned or controlled by each establishment